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**MAILED**

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Office of the Director  
Group 3600

In re application of  
Philip D. Nguyen et al.  
Application No. 09/882,572  
Filed: June 13, 2001  
For: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR  
GRAVEL PACKING OR FRAC  
PACKING WELLS

DECISION ON PETITION  
TO WITHDRAW THE  
HOLDING OF ABANDONMENT

This is in response to applicants' petition to withdraw the holding of abandonment filed in the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) on March 31, 2003.

The petition is **DISMISSED** as moot.

A review of the application file reveals that an Office action was mailed on August 7, 2002 wherein a three-month shortened statutory period for reply was set. Since no response had been matched with the file and the six-month statutory period for response had expired, the application was held to be abandoned, and a notice to that effect was mailed on March 7, 2003.

A further review reveals that the original amendment of January 24, 2003, including a three-month extension of time, has since been matched with the file. That original amendment is timely. Since a timely response to the Office action of August 7, 2002 has been filed, the abandonment will be withdrawn. Since the original of the amendment in question is now in the file, there is no need to treat the petition on the merits and it is therefore dismissed as moot.

This application will be forwarded to the Supervisory Legal Instruments Examiner to withdraw the abandonment, return the application to pending status and enter the original amendment filed January 24, 2003 before forwarding to the examiner for treatment on the merits.

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SNM/tpl: 6/27/03